of Regional Rural Banks including those of Bihar who have completed continuous minimum service as specified in the Employees Provident Fund and Misc. Provision Act 1952.

The existing data reporting system does not yield information about the Provident Fund contributions being made by individual employees of Regional Rural Banks in various States. However, the Employees Provident Fund and Misc. Provisions Act 1952 itself provides for penalties for available at Bhubaneshwar for such allotment ?

Voluntary Retirement in the Jiyaji Rao Cotton Mills Ltd., Gwalior

3566. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that having failed to get permission from the Madhya Pradesh Government in August, 1987 for closing down the whole of the weaving and related sections of Jiyaji Rao Cotton Mills Ltd., Gwalior, the management proceeded with a scheme of voluntary retirement to retrench nearly 2300 workers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the said voluntary retirement scheme had no approval of the trade unions;

(c) whether the State Government's Labour Department had consented for application of the said voluntary retirement scheme only in sections where the management wanted to impose closure;

(d) whether it also a fact that half of such retrenched workers belong to those sections of the mill which were not supposed to close down;

(e) whether it is also a fact that due to this partial closure nearly 2000 substitute workers have also been rendered jobless; and

(f) whether his Ministry is taking steps to stop the management's attempt to close down the whole loom shed of the mill illegally and to protect the jobs of the thousands of workers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (d) According to available information, Jiyaji Rao Cotton Mills Ltd., Gwalior submitted an application to the Madhya Pradesh Government seeking permission under Section 25(O) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 to suspend operations of some old plain looms and attendant department. The Madhya Pradesh Government while disposing of the applications directed the mill management to formulate a voluntary retirement scheme for the affeced workers in accordance with the understanding reached with various unions.

(e) The interests of substitute workers are being protected under the agreement with the unions.

(f) The closure of the old looms and attendant department etc. is being undertaken with the interest of workers protected by the voluntary retirement scheme, as directed by the Madhya Pradesh Government.

Audit offices in the P & T Department

3567. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that major P&T units of Orissa Circle like Postmaster General Office, General Manager, Telecommunications, S. E. Unit Divisional Engineer, Telegraphs, E.E. Civil and Electrical, Postal Stores Depot, Postal Life Insurance, P&T Printing Press, PAO, P&T Dispensary, etc. are functioning from Bhubaneshwar;

(b) if so, what are the reasons for which the P&T Audit Office alone has not been shifted from Cuttack to Bhubaneshwar when officials of P&T Audit have to very often go to Bhubaneshwar for inspection work involving public money;

(c) whether any memorandum has been received from the Central Government Employees 'Coordination Committee of Unions and Assocation, Cuttack making a strong plea for shifting of P&T Audit Office from Cuttack to Bhubaneshwar; and

(d) what are the reasons for which the proposal for shifting of P&T Audit Office